

## **Press Release**National Labor Relations Board Office of the General Counsel

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## NLRB region dismisses election petition for NYU graduate students Sets stage for reconsideration by the Board

The New York Regional Office of the National Labor Relations Board has dismissed a petition for election by New York University graduate student assistants, based on a 2003 Board decision that such assistants are not employees under the Act.

The union petitioning to represent the student assistants -- the Graduate Students Organizing Committee of the UAW – has indicated it will now ask the Board to review its 2003 decision, in *Brown University* (342 NLRB 483), "on the basis that it was wrongly decided both as a matter of law and policy." The deadline for filing such a review is June 21.

The union had petitioned on behalf of all NYU graduate students who are employed as teaching assistants, research assistants, and graduate assistants. In her decision to dismiss, Regional Director Celeste Mattina wrote, "Both parties argue that the Board's decision in *Brown* requires the dismissal of the petition filed herein. I agree."

The National Labor Relations Board is an independent federal agency vested with the power to safeguard employees' rights to organize and to determine whether to have unions as their bargaining representative. The agency also acts to prevent and remedy unfair labor practices committed by private sector employers and unions.